



Waitohi Picton ferry precinct redevelopment well underway

Work is progressing as the ferry precinct redevelopment begins to take shape.

The temporary terminal building, across the road from the i-SITE on Auckland Street, will soon be open for foot passengers and cyclists. With the structure now complete, work on the interior fit out is underway and on track for opening in early May.

From the end of this month the private vehicle check-in will move from Auckland Street to a site off Lagoon Road. This means people driving into Waitohi Picton will turn left at Kent Street, and carry on down Lagoon Road until they reach an Interislander ferry terminal sign on the right. Passengers will be guided into a new marshalling area where they'll wait to board the ship. Signage will point locals and visitors in the right direction.

March will also see the start of construction of two new jetties on the north side of the Edwin Fox Museum. This will add some berth length for commercial vessels relocated by Port Marlborough from the jetties affected by the construction of the new sea wall and wharf.

Over the next few months work to relocate sewer pipes along Dublin Street is also scheduled. Please note that Dublin Street will go down to one lane in places at times while this part of the project is completed. Dublin Street residents will be provided with more information on this prior to the works taking place.

All of this work is being carried out as part of a wider project to transform the Interislander experience and accommodate two brand new, purpose-built ferries, the first of which will arrive in 2025. The new ferries will be bigger and cleaner than the current fleet. They will be able to carry twice as many passengers as the current fleet, have 300 per cent more rail capacity, and almost double the number of trucks and other vehicles. Powered by diesel/electric hybrid technology, the new ferries will achieve a 40 per cent reduction in the Interislander's carbon emissions.

For more information about the project go to: www.irex.co.nz



The new temporary terminal is scheduled to open in early May with just the interior fit out to complete



An illustration of one of the new purpose-built ferries scheduled to arrive in 2025

Waitaria Bay kids boat to Bohally

Three students from Waitaria Bay School are commuting to Bohally Technology Centre by boat and bus.

Teaching Principal Tineke Giddy said it was a number of years since students had attended technology classes at Bohally Intermediate.

"The three-hour drive each way kept it out of reach as it meant a really early start and a very long day," she said. "Compounding this is the current state of Kenepuru Road following the Kaikōura earthquake and two big rain events."

However the three year seven and eight students are benefitting from the extensive facilities and teaching at Bohally, thanks to the Mayoral Relief Fund.

"We are grateful to the fund for supporting our efforts to gain access to this educational opportunity for our tamariki, by funding the water taxi option," Tineke said. "It has made the Bohally Technology Centre a feasible option for our students."

The three students take the water taxi from Waitaria Bay to Havelock, which takes around 45 minutes and then meet the technology bus outside Havelock School which takes them to Bohally.

It's still a long day, but much shorter than the alternative.



The water taxi means getting Waitaria Bay students to Bohally technology classes is a lot easier



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03 520 7400 | HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ